

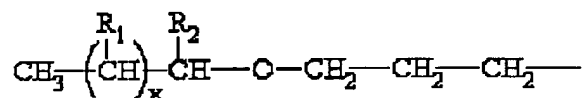
In the Claims

Claims 1-56 (Canceled).

Please add the following new claims:

57. (New) An alkyl ether sulfate composition comprising an alkyl ether sulfate represented by the formula:

XOSO₃M, wherein M is hydrogen or a cation, and X is represented by the formula



wherein R₁ represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R₂ represents a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, x is a number ranging from 0 to 16, wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the alkyl ether sulfate ranges from 9 to 24.

58. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 57 wherein M is hydrogen.

59. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 57 wherein M is a cation effective to provide a water soluble alkyl ether sulfate composition.

60. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 59 wherein M is selected from the group consisting of ammonium, alkanolammonium, monovalent metal cations, and polyvalent metal cations.

61. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 57 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.

62. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 61 wherein R₁ is hydrogen.

63. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 57 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.

64. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 58 wherein R_2 is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.
65. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 64 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
66. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 58 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.
67. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 59 wherein R_2 is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.
68. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 67 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
69. (New) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 59 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.
70. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 57.
71. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 58.
72. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 59.
73. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 61.
74. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 63.